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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/840,128	05/06/2004	Satoshi Takagi	09812.0205	7262
22852	7590	09/12/2007	EXAMINER	
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			COUSO, JOSE L	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2624		
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/840,128	TAKAGI, SATOSHI	
	Examiner Jose L. Couso	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1-13 and 26-35 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 14,15,19,21,22 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 16-18,20,23 and 24 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/7/07.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 14-15, 19, 21-22 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Haruma et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,761,343).

With regard to claim 14, Haruma describes an encoding device, which applies plural kinds of predetermined encoding processing in order to image information to be inputted, comprising plural encoding processing means which are provided in association with the respective kinds of encoding processing, wherein the encoding device performs the plural kinds of encoding processing with respect to the image information in parallel with preceding the encoding processing using the respective corresponding encoding processing means with a predetermined first phase difference according to contents of the encoding processing (see figure 13 and refer for example to column 10, lines 41-54 and column 11, lines 4-17).

As to claim 15, Haruma describes wherein the encoding processing means corresponding to respective kinds of the encoding processing are provided for each predetermined unit of the image information, and the encoding processing means for each predetermined unit of the image information perform respective kinds of the encoding processing with a predetermined second phase difference, respectively (see figures 6 and 13 and refer for example to column 10, lines 41-54 and column 11, lines 4-17).

In regard to claim 19, Haruma describes wherein the respective encoding processing means apply corresponding the encoding processing to the image information with predetermined plural pixels as a unit (as clearly illustrated in figure 6).

With regard to claim 21, Haruma describes an encoding method of applying plural kinds of predetermined encoding processing in order to image information to be inputted, comprising an encoding step of performing the plural kinds of encoding processing with respect to the image information in parallel with the respective preceding encoding processing with a predetermined first phase difference according to contents of the encoding processing (see figure 13 and refer for example to column 10, lines 41-54 and column 11, lines 4-17).

As to claim 22, Haruma describes wherein, in the encoding step, respective kinds of the encoding processing are performed in parallel for each predetermined unit (as clearly illustrated in figure 13).

In regard to claim 25 Haruma wherein respective kinds of the encoding processing are applied to the image information with predetermined plural pixels as a unit (as clearly illustrated in figure 6).

3. Claims 1-13 and 26-35 are allowed.

4. Claims 16-18, 20 and 23-24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of the record fail to teach or suggest singly and/or in combination an encoding device and method for encoding image information to be inputted which provides encoding means which applies predetermined encoding processing to the image information; and first storing means which, when the encoding means applies the encoding processing to the image information, stores state quantity information representing a predetermined state quantity which is used while being sequentially updated according to a processing state of the encoding processing, wherein the encoding means reads out only a necessary part of the state quantity information, which is stored in the first storing means, from the first storing means and changes the state quantity information according to the processing state of the encoding processing with respect to the image information, and then writes back the state quantity information to the first storing means as prescribed for in the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jose L. Couso whose telephone number is (571) 272-7388. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella, can be reached on (571) 272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the USPTO contact Center whose telephone number is (703) 308-4357.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jlc
August 27, 2007



JOSE L. COUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER